

In the Claims

Please amend Claims 1 and 10 as follows:

- E2
1. (Four times amended) A method of trimming aluminum sheet comprising:
securing the aluminum sheet in a die adjacent a cutting blade at a cutting angle of from about 10 to about 30 degrees measured from a plane perpendicular to a cutting direction of the cutting blade and with a cutting blade clearance of at least 5 percent of the thickness of the aluminum sheet measured between the blade and the die; and
trimming the aluminum sheet at the cutting angle and with the cutting blade clearance to thereby produce a trimmed aluminum sheet with substantially no slivers.
- E3
10. (Thrice amended) A method of trimming an aluminum sheet comprising:
securing the aluminum sheet between a die and a pad at a cutting angle of from about 10 to about 30 degrees adjacent a cutting blade wherein the cutting angle is measured from a plane perpendicular to a cutting direction of the cutting blade, and with a cutting blade clearance of at least about 5 percent of the thickness of the aluminum sheet measured between the blade and the die; and
trimming the aluminum sheet at the cutting angle and with the cutting blade clearance to thereby produce a trimmed aluminum sheet with substantially no slivers.

Please cancel Claim 11.

Please amend Claims 12 and 13 as follows:

- E4
12. (Twice amended) The method of Claim 10, wherein the cutting angle is from about 15 to about 25 degrees.
- E5
13. (Amended) The method of Claim 10, wherein the clearance is at least about 10 percent of the thickness of the aluminum sheet.

REMARKS

Upon entry of this Amendment Claims 1-5, 10 and 12-17 will be pending in the application.

The Examiner's indication that Claims 2-5 and 13-16 recite allowable subject matter is acknowledged with appreciation.

By the present Amendment, a paragraph at page 3 of the specification referring to Fig. 4 has been changed to more clearly indicate that Fig. 4 illustrates sliver generation during